

REMARKS

Claims 16, 26, 33, 34, 44 and 46-51 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 44 is amended. Reconsideration based on above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. The Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 16, 26, 33, 34, 44 and 46-51 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,132,839 to Travis ("Travis"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts on page 2 that Travis discloses "a three-dimensional image display formed by a two-dimensional image forming means (item 4)" as recited in claim 16, and similarly recited in claim 49. The Office Action further asserts that the system of Travis also includes a "deflecting means (item 1)," Applicant respectfully disagrees with this assertion.

Travis discloses in the Abstract a "backlighting apparatus for projecting beams of light in selected directions, a spatial light modulator for displaying images back-lit by the backlighting apparatus, and a control system coupled to both the spatial light modulator and the backlighting apparatus ... The backlighting apparatus preferably includes a two dimensional display device for emitting spots of light at selected locations along the two dimensional display, and a lens system for refracting light emitted by the two dimensional display device. The lens system can comprise a single lens or an array of lenses located between the two dimensional display and the spatial light modulator." Therefore, the two-dimensional image forming means is the spatial light modulator 2. Travis discloses that the deflecting means 1 deflects light before it enters the spatial modulator 2.

Therefore, Travis does not disclose a "deflecting means for deflecting the projecting direction of the two-dimensional image by deflecting the light which has exited the

two-dimensional image forming means such that the projecting direction of the two-dimensional image formed by the two-dimensional image forming means changes in accordance with time-dependent changes of the two-dimensional image," as recited in claim 16.

Further, Travis does not disclose a "three-dimensional image forming means for forming a three-dimensional image by projecting a light emitted by the two-dimensional image forming means in different directions in accordance with positions of incidence to project the plurality of two-dimensional images in directions different from each other," as recited in claim 49. Thus, for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 16, claim 49 is also patentable over Travis.

Claims 26, 34 and 35 which depend from claim 16 are patentable for the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 16.

Further, Travis does not disclose a "two-dimensional image forming means for forming a plurality of two-dimensional images by scanning light which has been subjected to time-modulation based on information on rearrangement of the data of each pixel of the plurality of two-dimensional images," as recited in independent claim 44.

For the reasons discussed above, withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 16, 44 and 49, and their respective dependent claims, is respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 16, 26, 33, 34, 44 and 46-51 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Petition for One-Month Extension of Time

JAO:RBI/fpw

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